REMARKS

Claims 4-12 are pending in this case. The Examiner has allowed claims 4-8, but has rejected claims 9-12. Claims 9 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by what the Office Action refers to as the Applicant's "admitted prior art," which appears to be Figures 6 and 7 of the application. The Office Action rejects claims 10 and 11 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Applicant's "admitted prior art" (Figures 6 and 7) in combination with U.S. Patent No. 6,604,772 to Sturt.

With respect to the rejection of claims 9 and 12, Applicant amends claim 9 to recite that "the recess wall surface is inclined with respect to a direction perpendicular to a direction of the sliding movement of the extendable plate." Applicant amends claims 12 to recite that "the removal-preventing recess includes a recess wall surface inclined with respect to a direction perpendicular to a direction of the sliding movement of the extendable plate, so that the tip of the other of the first protruding member or the second protruding member contacts with the recess wall surface when the extendable plate is in the second position." Applicant's "admitted prior art" does not teach these respective limitations. For at least these reasons, claims 9 and 12, and all claims dependent therefrom are allowable.

With respect to claims 10 and 11, each of those claims depends from claim 9. The Office Action argues that claims 10 and 11 are unpatentable under § 103 based on a combination of Applicant's "admitted prior art" and *Sturt*. As explained above, Applicant's "admitted prior art" fails to teach all of the limitations of claim 9. Accordingly, claims 10 and 11, which depend therefrom, are allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that these amendments place pending claims 9-12 in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments and allowance of the case is therefore respectfully requested. In the event that an extension of time is necessary in order for this submission to be considered timely filed, please consider this a Request for Extension of Time, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account 03-2769 of Conley Rose, P.C., Houston, Texas. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be beneficial, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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